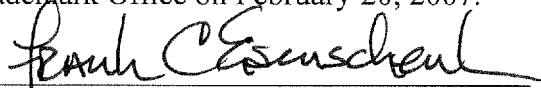


I hereby certify that this correspondence is being electronically filed in the United States Patent and Trademark Office on February 20, 2007.



Frank C. Eisenschenk, Ph.D., Patent Attorney

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
Examining Group 1634
Patent Application
Docket No. UTR-107X
Serial No. 10/788,432

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Examiner : Katherine D. Salmon
Art Unit : 1634
Applicants : Aaron D. Peacock, Greg A. Davis, David C. White
Serial No. : 10/788,432
Filed : February 27, 2004
Conf. No. : 8113
For : Methods of Sampling Microbial Communities and Apparatus Therefore

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

Sir:

Applicants request that the period for response be extended one month through and including February 20, 2007, the fees for which have been paid at the time this Amendment was filed. Applicants note that February 19, 2007 was a federal holiday.

In response to the Office Action dated October 17, 2006, please amend the above-identified patent application as follows: